* In order to reach every eligible child during the pulse polio round, apart from the strategy of vaccinating children at fixed booths and house to house visits, efforts in vaccinating children in transit at railway stations, inside long distance trains, major bus stops, market places, religious congregations, major road crossings etc. through out the country have been intensified.

* Social Mobilization activities are being intensified by involving the local influencers, community and religious leaders to improve community participation and acceptance of polio vaccine.

Statement

Number of polio cases by State, 2007-08

States/UTs	2007	2008
Bihar	497	154
Uttar Pradesh	340	36
Haryana	6	
Rajasthan	3	
Delhi	2	
Maharashtra	2	
West Bengal	2	
Orissa	1	
Uttarakhand	6	
Andhra Pradesh	5	
Punjab	1	
Gujarat	1	
Karnataka	1	
TOTAL	867	196

Fake drugs

3452. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the recent survey by ASSOCHAM which has found that fake drugs worth Rs. 300 crore are being sold in Delhi-and NCR annually and spurious drugs in NCR constitutes 20-25 pet cent of the total medicines sold in the region;

(b) whether Government is aware that the survey brought into focus the shortage of drug inspectors in the region to monitor over 33,000 chemist shops; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government proposes to weedout the spurious drugs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Government has received a feed back from the ASSOCHAM in respect of a news report published in the Hindustan Times dated 14.02.2008 regarding a recent survey by ASSOCHAM highlighting rise of sale of spurious drugs, from which it appear that the data were collected by the Chamber from the manufacturers in the NCR region which stated that on an average annual turn-over has

dropped down by about 25%. It appears that no scientific survey on the extent of spurious/ counterfeit medicines was carried out by ASSOCHAM.

Hellish condition of Government hospitals in the Capital

3453. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that condition of most of the Government hospitals in the Capital are hellish;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a top hospital in the Capital is short of supplies that helpless patients have to purchase even basic things like cotton wool from outside as per recent newspaper reports; and

(c) whether Government has made any survey about the appalling conditions of Government hospitals in the Capital and if so, what are the findings thereof and Government's reaction in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) In so far as three Central Government Hospitals, namely, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College and its associated hospitals as well as All India Institute of Medical Sciences, are concerned, all efforts are made to provide best possible treatment to all the patients coming to the hospital's emergency department as well as in OPD and ICUs. All the essential medicines according to the hospital formulary besides surgical items are available in these hospitals.

Ban on consumption of ordinary salt

t3454. SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has put a ban on consumption and use of ordinary salt by human beings;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government had constituted a Committee to take into consideration the objections raised by various institutions before putting the ban;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Committee had seriously examined all objections and given its recommendations accordingly; and

(d) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Committee with regard to banning the use of ordinary salt and compulsory use of iodized salt?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Under the PFA Rules 1955 there is restriction on the sale of edible common salt for direct human consumption, unless it is iodized. However, Non- iodized common salt may be sold for purpose of iodization, iron fortification, animal use, preservation, manufacturing medicines and industrial use under proper label declaration.

(b) to (d) A Group of Expert considered the comments received and recommended that each rule and clause of notification be finalized as draft notified.

f Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.